

Serial No. 10/656,428

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article comprising:

a an absorbent nonwoven fabric comprising fibers and having a density from about 0.01 g/cc to about 0.05 g/cc, said nonwoven fabric having a first major surface and a second major surface; and

an apertured film secured to at least one major surface of the nonwoven fabric.

Claim 2. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the fibers comprising the nonwoven fabric are selected from the group consisting of rayon, cotton, wood pulp, and combinations thereof.

Claim 3. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the fibers comprising the nonwoven fabric are bicomponent fibers.

Claim 4. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the nonwoven fabric comprises a blend of from about 70% to about 95% by weight of synthetic non-absorbent fibers and from about 5% to about 30% by weight of absorbent fibers and has a basis weight ranging from about 30 gsm to about 150 gsm.

Claim 5. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the apertured film comprises a polymeric material selected from the group consisting of ethylene methyl acrylate, polyethylene, metallocene catalyzed polyethylene, polypropylene, and copolymers thereof, and ethylene vinyl acetate copolymers.

Claim 6. (Original) The article of claim 1 wherein the article is a wound contacting pad for an adhesive bandage.

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Claim 7. (Original) The article of claim 6 wherein the open area of the apertured film ranges from about 5 percent to about 30 percent of the total area of the apertured film.

Claim 8. (Original) The article of claim 7 wherein the open area of the apertured film ranges from about 10 percent to about 25 percent of the total area of the apertured film.

Claim 9. (Original) The article of claim 1 further comprising a top layer secured to the second major surface of said nonwoven fabric.

Claim 10. (Original) The article of claim 9 wherein said top layer material is a microporous film.

Claim 11. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 10 wherein the article is a disposable diaper.

Claim 12. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 10 wherein the article is a sanitary protection pad.

Claim 13. (Original) The article of claim 10 wherein the article is an adhesive bandage.

Claim 14-18 (Cancelled)